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NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
2101 CONSTITUTION AVENUE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20418

COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

April 26, 1977

Lt. Gen. Jorge Rafael Videla
President of the Republic of Argentina
Casa Rosada
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Dear Mr. President:

The National Academy of Sciences Committee on Human Rights is deeply concerned about reports from colleagues on the disappearance of Argentine scientists and scholars. According to our information a number have been held incommunicado for many weeks and are not permitted visits from family, scientific associates, or legal counsel. We have also heard very disturbing reports of physical abuse and the consequent state of health of some prisoners.

This communication specifically requests that you furnish this Committee the address to which communications may be sent to the scientists named below and that permission be granted for periodic visits by family, friends and scientific associates:

1. Federico Alvarez Rojas, physicist of CNEA, and his wife;
2. Gabriela Carabelli, physicist of the University of Córdoba, and daughter;
3. Juan Carlos Gallardo, physicist of the University of Córdoba;
4. Antonio Missetich, physicist of CNEA; and
5. Eduardo Pasquini, physicist of the University of Rosario, and wife.

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)

U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/TPS

Margaret P. Grafeld, Director

☒ Release ☐ Excise ☐ Deny

Exemption(s):

Declassify: ☐ In Part ☐ In Full

☐ Classify as ☐ Extend as ☐ Downgrade to ☐ Reason

Date

Declassify on

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50/52

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Secondly, we ask if charges have been brought against any of the above scientists. We ask that the name and address of the defense counsel for each be given so that we may communicate with them.

Mr. President, this Committee is not oblivious to the difficult situation faced by your Government. Our petition on behalf of the Argentine physicists is independent of political belief. We affirm the right of all persons to humane treatment, to fair and open trial, and to representation by competent legal counsel.

In anticipation of your early reply,

Very truly yours,

Robert W. Kates

Robert W. Kates
Chairman

cc: Dr. Jorge A. Aja Espil
Ambassador
Embassy of Argentina, Washington